



കേരള ഗസറ്റ് KERALA GAZETTE

അസാധാരണം EXTRAORDINARY

ആധികാരികമായി പ്രസിദ്ധപ്പെടുത്തുന്നത്
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ബുധൻ

Thiruvananthapuram,
Wednesday

2024 മാർച്ച് 20
20th March 2024

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7th Meenam 1199

1945 ഫാൽഗുനം 30
30th Phalguna 1945

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No.

1075

IN THE COURT OF THE DISTRICT MAGISTRATE, KOLLAM
(Present : DEVIDAS, N., IAS)

ORDER UNDER SECTION 144Cr.P.C.

No. DCKLM/3271/2024-M5.

16th March, 2024.

Sub:— General Election to Loksabha 2024—Restriction on carrying of firearms and other weapons during election—Prohibitory Orders u/s 144 Cr.P.C., 1973—Orders issued.

Read:— 1. Letter No. 464/INST/2023/L&O dated 8th June, 2023 of the ECI.
2. Letter No. 464/INST/2022 dated 26-4-2022 of the Election Commission of India.
3. Letter No. 437/6/1/INST/ECI/FUNCT/MCC dated 16-3-2024 of the Election Commission of India.
4. Press Note No. ECI/PN/23/2024 dated 16-3-2024 of the Election Commission of India.



WHEREAS, the Election Commission of India has announced on 16-3-2024 that the General Election to Lok Sabha 2024 for the State of Kerala will be held on 26-4-2024 and soon after this announcement of the Election Schedule, the Model Code of Conduct has come into force with immediate effect vide reference (3);

AND WHEREAS, the Election Commission of India vide reference (1) has also instructed that Prohibitory Orders u/s 144 Cr.P.C., 1973, shall be issued banning the carrying of licensed arms as soon as the election is announced and should be effective till the declaration of results;

AND WHEREAS, it appears to me that carrying firearms, spears, swords, lathis and other weapons by the public during the election period is likely to lead to a breach of peace and pose a threat to the peaceful conduct of election in the District of Kollam comprising of Kollam, Mavelikara and Alappuzha Lok Sabha Constituencies where elections are scheduled;

AND WHEREAS, in my opinion there is sufficient ground for proceeding under Section 144 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973, to prohibit the action mentioned in pre-para, which may be detrimental to public peace and tranquility and may pose a threat to the peaceful conduct of free and fair elections;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Devidas, N., IAS, District Magistrate, Kollam hereby prohibit carrying of firearms of any kind, spears, swords, lathis and any weapons by the general public in the District of Kollam. This order is promulgated with effect from today and will remain in force for two months. Breach of the order would invite prosecution u/s 188 IPC;

FURTHER, the District Screening Committee constituted vide reference (2) shall conduct a detailed and individual review and assessment of all license holder of firearms and impound any licensed arms whose deposition is considered essential for the maintenance of law and order and ensuring free and fair elections;

FURTHER, this ban shall not apply to those Nationalised/Private Banks where arms are necessary to safeguard cash chests and also those sports persons registered with the National Rifle Association and have to participate in various sporting events in which they used their rifles. However, an individual exemption order shall have to be obtained immediately;

FURTHER, this ban shall not apply to those communities who are entitled to display weapons by long-standing law, custom and usage. However, the Police shall impound the weapons of any persons even from such communities, if found to be indulging in violence or posing a threat to maintaining law and order and peaceful conduct of elections.

Dated this 16th day of March, 2024.

DISTRICT MAGISTRATE,
Kollam.



Copy submitted to:—

The Chief Secretary to the Government of Kerala for kind information.

The Chief Electoral Officer, Thiruvananthapuram for kind information.

Copy to:—

The Commissioner of Police, Kollam City.

The District Police Chief, Kollam Rural.

The Sub-Divisional Magistrate (Kollam/Punalur).

The District Information Officer, Kollam (for making wide publicity).

The District Informatics Officer, Kollam (for making wide publicity).

The Lead Bank Managers, Kollam.

CA to DM and ADM.

